HOME RULE MESSAGE REQUESTING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO ENACT LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK TO ESTABLISH A COUNTY-WIDE MASTER ELECTRICIAN LICENSING PROGRAM (SENATE BILL NO. S.5132 AND ASSEMBLY BILL NO. A.7298)

WHEREAS, the County of Suffolk licenses a number of occupations, including electricians; and

WHEREAS, several municipalities within Suffolk County require that electricians working within their borders have an additional electrician's license specific to their town or village; and

WHEREAS, the costs associated with obtaining multiple licenses to engage in work throughout Suffolk County place a significant financial strain on electricians; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance and management of multiple redundant licenses can be confusing, time consuming and burdensome to small business owners without providing for added consumer protection; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York enacted legislation which authorized the Counties of Dutchess and Westchester to establish a master electrician licensing board, making such counties the sole licensing authority for electricians; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in the New York State Legislature that would allow Suffolk County to assume all licensing duties for master electricians within the County; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby supports New York State Senate bill S.5132 and Assembly bill A.7298, which would amend the New York State County law to allow the County of Suffolk to establish a master electrician licensing board and assume all licensing duties for that profession within the County; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo; to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate Dean Skelos; to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly Sheldon Silver; to the Minority Leaders of the New York State Senate and the New York State Assembly; and to each member of the Long Island delegation to the New York State Legislature.

DATED: March 4, 2014